

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:
 - image forming stations for respective colors arranged along an intermediate transfer belt, each said image forming station including an image carrier;
 - a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier;
 - a housing body in which said image forming stations and said intermediate transfer belt are situated;
 - a support frame for supporting a driving roller and a driven roller ~~rollers~~ around which said intermediate transfer belt is laid with some tension;
 - an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said intermediate transfer belt; and
 - a locking means, disposed on the side of said driven roller, for locking said support frame to the housing body;

wherein said support frame is attached to the housing body such that the support frame is detachable relative to the housing body by means of pivotal movement; and

wherein said image density detecting means is connected to the support frame, in proximity to said locking means.

2. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transfer belt is a paper carrying belt.

3. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transfer belt is an intermediate transfer belt.

4. (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

image forming stations for respective colors arranged along an intermediate transfer belt, each said image forming station including an image carrier;

a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier;

a housing body in which said image forming stations and said intermediate transfer belt are situated;

a support frame for supporting a driving roller and a driven roller ~~rollers~~ around which said intermediate transfer belt is laid with some tension;

an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said intermediate transfer belt;

wherein said support frame is attached to the housing body such that the support frame is detachable relative to the housing body by means of pivotal movement; and

wherein said image density detecting means is connected to the support frame, in proximity to ~~one of~~ said driving rollers which is ~~the~~ nearest to the pivot of said support frame.

5. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transfer belt is a paper carrying belt.

6. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transfer belt is an intermediate transfer belt.